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Nora Durant
Nora Durant

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Siu-Yin Wong, et al.

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Continuation of : 08/909,488

Filing Date: Herewith

For: IMMUNODIAGNOSTIC DEVICE HAVING
A DESICCANT INCORPORATED
THEREIN

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1 of the specification, under the title, please amend by inserting the following:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 08/909,488, filed August 12, 1997, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,763,262, filed April 3, 1992, which is a file wrapper continuation of U.S. Application No. 07/528,050, filed June 25, 1990 (abandoned),

which is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 06/909,020, filed September 18, 1986
(abandoned).

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-25.

Please add the following new claim:

26. (New) In an immunoassay device having a housing with at least one opening therethrough for introduction of a liquid sample into the housing and at least one immunological reagent in dried form in said housing, the improvement comprising:

a desiccant material in said housing, wherein said desiccant is capable of retarding deterioration of said reagent.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket No. 273102008104. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 11, 2002

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the specification below the title:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 08/909,488, filed August 12, 1997, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,763,262, filed April 3, 1992, which was a file wrapper continuation of U.S. Application No. 07/528,050, filed June 25, 1990 (abandoned), which is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 06/909,020, filed September 18, 1986.

In the claims:

Please delete claims 1-25.

Please add the following new claim.

26. (New) In an immunoassay device having a housing with at least one opening therethrough for introduction of a liquid sample into the housing and at least one immunological reagent in dried form in said housing, the improvement comprising:

a desiccant material in said housing, wherein said desiccant is capable of retarding deterioration of said reagent.